

# COLLEGE



## PLANNING TIMELINE



### *Junior Year*

#### **October**

- Take PSAT.
- Create a College Board account.
- Continue to prepare for standardized testing.
- Review your transcript.
- Attend 11<sup>th</sup> grade Parent Night.
- Use NAVIANCE to explore career interests and majors.

#### **November**

- Explore the differences between SAT and ACT, discuss with counselor.
- Attend college fairs.

#### **December**

- Review PSAT scores with your counselor and discuss your testing timeline.
- Use your PSAT score and GPA to begin thinking about schools.
- Track progress on NAVIANCE.

#### **January/February**

- Review PSAT scores with counselor.
- Attend College Night.
- Review SAT/ACT schedules and consider a timeline for testing.
- Register for SAT or ACT for the spring.
- Research colleges on NAVIANCE.
- Schedule college visits during February break and Spring break.

#### **March/April**

- Take SAT or ACT.
- Schedule post-secondary planning parent meeting with counselor.
- Add to “schools I’m thinking about” on NAVIANCE.
- Visit college websites regularly.
- Schedule college visits during spring break.
- Keep track of your research and reflect on your interests.
- Decide which two teachers you would like to ask for recommendations.
- Look at the Common Application essay prompts.

## **May**

- Take SAT or ACT.
- Decide on your organizational system for college search.
- Reach out to colleges and request information.
- Take AP exams (if applicable).

## **June**

- Take SAT, ACT and/or SAT II's.
- Visit schools.
- Prepare a starter list of schools and discuss with counselor.
- Finish guidance questionnaire.
- Begin brainstorming essay ideas, review essay prompts.
- Ask two of your academic teachers if they would be willing to write you a letter of recommendation.
- Update your activities list on NAVIANCE.
- Complete your Guidance counselor questionnaire and turn in it.

## **July/August**

- Visit schools.
- Complete essay draft.
- Determine deadlines and application procedures.
- Start filling out common application.
- Check if your schools require supplements and begin completing them.
- Continue to contact colleges and finalize the list of schools you will be applying to.
- Double check all deadlines – remember to check the school's website, not just NAVIANCE.
- Register for a fall SAT or ACT.

# ***Senior Year***

## **September**

- Attend Senior Night.
- Review transcript and promptly address any concerns with counselor.
- Work on applications.
- Have an English teacher review your essay.
- Show your counselor your essay draft.
- Finalize essay.
- Follow up with teacher recommenders and provide them with a list of schools you will be applying to.
- Match common application and NAVIANCE.
- Complete FERPA.
- Visit with college reps at South High (must register on NAVIANCE).
- Work on the CSS profile (if applicable).

## **October**

- Complete the FAFSA.
- Complete the CSS profile if required.
- Make sure to turn in your transcript request forms to your counselor at least 15 school days prior to your application deadline.
- Double check all your application requirements.

- Send standardized test scores.
- Re-take the SAT or ACT, if applicable.
- Visit your counselor frequently.
- Communicate with counselor if you require a fee waiver.

### **November**

- November 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> EA and ED deadlines.
- Visit with reps.
- Determine the rest of your deadlines and make sure you are keeping up with the requirements.
- Keep your grades up!
- Meet with your counselor regularly.

### **December**

- Make sure to have all transcript requests to your counselor for the January deadlines. Keep in mind that there is a long break and that your counselor/teacher may not be available during break to help you.
- Withdraw applications if you are accepted ED.
- If you are deferred, speak with your counselor about how to proceed.

### **January**

- Continue to complete applications.
- Finish the semester very strong! You may need to send your mid-year grades to your colleges.

### **February**

- Complete your requests for mid-year grades and turn in to guidance.
- Inform your counselor of any admission decision you receive.

### **March**

- Check your email frequently.
- Communicate with your counselor.

### **April**

- Spend time thinking about which school you would like to choose of the schools you were accepted to.
- Review financial aid packages carefully.
- Let schools know if you are sure you will not attend, this will open up spots for students who have been waitlisted.
- Make your decision and submit your deposit by May 1st!
- Let your counselor know so they can send your final transcript.

### **May**

- Make sure to carefully follow the instructions for the school you have been accepted to, i.e. Registering for placement exams.
- Take AP exams seriously!

### **June-August**

- Attend orientation.
- Submit AP exams.
- Follow your schools instruction regarding housing, registering for courses, etc.



**Have a GREAT summer!**